

**United Kingdom: Government Publications**

Articles taken from recent and former newsletters, also press releases on different CCJ-ISSUES. All of those will hopefully still be accessible free of charge for each and every addressee of CCJ-News

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MoJ Press release

**Helen’s Law receives Royal Assent**

Killers who withhold information on their victims could spend longer behind bars. [https://www.gov.uk/government/news/helen-s-law-receives-royal-assent?utm\\_source=ac43c743-5900-4cb5-bd95-beeb178107af&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm\\_content=daily](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/helen-s-law-receives-royal-assent?utm_source=ac43c743-5900-4cb5-bd95-beeb178107af&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=daily)

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[Vulnerable victims in London and Kent to be given new courtroom protections](#)

Page summary: Vulnerable victims and witnesses will be spared the trauma of attending court as technology allowing pre-recording of evidence sessions is rolled out across London and Kent today (24 August 2020).

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[Major overhaul of family courts to protect domestic abuse victims](#)

Page summary: Survivors of domestic abuse and their children will receive greater protections after the government today announced an overhaul of how the family courts deal with the horrific crime

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[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): support for victims of sexual violence and abuse, Funding Allocations](#)

Page summary: Allocations of funding to Police and Crime Commissioners, Rape Support Centres, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence support organisations.

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[New compensation scheme for victims of terrorism](#)

Page summary: Victims of terror atrocities at home and overseas are to benefit from a new dedicated compensation scheme under government plans to boost the support offered to people injured by violent crime.

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## [Tackling racial disparity in the criminal justice system: 2020](#)

Page summary: Update on government's progress tackling disparities, including progress in response to the independent 2017 Lammy Review.

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## [Exploring substance use in prisons: a case study approach in 5 closed male English prisons](#)

Page summary: Research involved case study methodology, exploring factors associated with substance use in 5 English prisons.

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### **Youth Justice Board** [The state of youth justice 2020](#)

The National Association for Youth Justice (NAYJ) published its [the state of youth justice 2020](#) report last week. This report, the third in a series, is authored by distinguished youth justice academic Dr Tim Bateman.

It follows previous reports in 2015 and 2017 which have proved important sources of analysis and reflection about contemporary youth justice policy and practice. The report considers statistical trends and developments in youth justice, including examining areas such as racial disparities, youth violence and child first practice. The report also reflects upon the impact of COVID-19 on the youth justice system, not least for those children who have been in custody during this challenging time.

### **New report on school exclusions**

This week, the Institute of Race Relations published its London focussed report: [How Black Working-Class Youth are Criminalised and Excluded in the English School System](#).

According to the report, the proportion of pupils in Pupil Referral Units and Alternative Provision in the capital is 'almost double the national rate', with young boys of black Caribbean heritage over-represented.

### [Looking closer at disproportionality](#)

Following the securing of funding via the Youth Justice Board's Serious Youth Violence (SYV) Pathfinder programme, Islington and Haringey Youth Offending Services worked with criminologists at City, University of London to extensively research the factors that lead to disproportionality in the youth justice system.

The work followed on from the Lammy Review into the treatment of, and outcomes for black, Asian and minority ethnic individuals in the criminal justice system. This study identified that unconscious and overt bias can act as drivers of

disproportionately negative outcomes for black, Asian and minority ethnic individuals who come into contact with the criminal justice system.

[Read more >>](#)

<https://youthjusticeboard.newsweaver.co.uk/yots2/1u30rmk28gm1xg7pj3a3tl?email=true&lang=en&a=2&p=57921336&t=21098815>

### **New report on children who are criminally exploited**

The Children's Society has published, [Counting Lives Report: responding to children who are criminally exploited](#).

This report is a call to action for professionals to recognise child criminal exploitation and provide a coordinated safeguarding response.

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#### [Radical sentencing overhaul to cut crime](#)

Page summary: The Lord Chancellor Robert Buckland QC has today set out his plan for “smarter sentencing” to crack down on crime and protect the public by ensuring dangerous criminals are kept in prison for longer.

#### [Lord Chancellor’s Speech: White Paper Launch – A Smarter Approach to Sentencing](#)

Page summary: Full text of the speech given by Robert Buckland QC to launch the White Paper – A Smarter Approach to Sentencing.

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#### [Criminal record reform to support ex-offenders into work](#)

Page summary: New legislation will help ex-offenders to find a job – allowing them to turn their lives around and ending the cycle of crime.

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#### [Public safety boost with more secure accommodation for prison leavers](#)

Page summary: An extra 1,700 offenders will receive closer supervision on their release from prison under plans to expand the number of places in approved premises.

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[Restrictions on prisoner voting policy framework](#)

Page summary: The framework sets out which prisoners are eligible to vote in elections and the support that should be provided to them should they wish to do so.

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[Prison Performance Ratings: 2019 to 2020](#)

Page summary: Annual performance ratings of prison establishments in England and Wales.

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[Preventing and controlling outbreaks of COVID-19 in prisons and places of detention](#)

Page summary: Information for prisons and other prescribed places of detention on coronavirus (COVID-19).

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[Improvements to care for pregnant women and mothers in prison](#)

Page summary: Individual care plans and increased staff training on supporting vulnerable mothers and pregnant women will significantly improve the way they are cared for in custody, under a new policy.

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[Review of operational policy on pregnancy, Mother and Baby Units and maternal separation](#)

Page summary: Summary report of the review of PSI 49/2014 and operational policy on pregnancy and women separated from children under 2 in prison.

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[Probation Workforce Strategy](#)

Page summary: The Probation Workforce Strategy sets out our collective ambition for a more positive, inclusive, and diverse probation workforce, and the steps we are committed to taking to achieve this over the three years from 2020 to 2023.

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[Public safety boosted with 1,000 new probation officers](#)

Page summary: Frontline probation services will be boosted by more than 1,000 new recruits as part of a major three-year plan to strengthen the supervision of offenders unveiled today.

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[Counter-Terrorism and Sentencing Bill](#)

Page summary: The Bill will ensure that the sentences served by terrorists reflects the severity of offending and will strengthen the tools for monitoring them in the community.

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[Reform prisons pilot: research report on lessons learnt](#)

Page summary: This study reports on research into the ‘Reform prisons pilot’, a trial to provide greater autonomy for prison governors across six prisons between July 2016 and December 2017.

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[Evaluation of digital technology in prisons](#)

Page summary: This study reports on an evaluation of introducing new digital technology into prisons in England and Wales.

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[Government plan new changes to criminal records disclosure regime](#)

Page summary: Youth cautions and multiple conviction rule to be removed from automatic disclosure.

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[Improved training to reduce conflict in youth custody](#)

Page summary: Prison officers will receive improved training on how to resolve conflict without resorting to the use of force, and when they should temporarily separate children from others in youth custody for everyone’s safety, following recommendations from reports commissioned by the Ministry of Justice.

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[Specialist Youth Justice degree for all officers working with children](#)

Page summary: Prison officers are being taught specialist skills to support their vital work with children who are in custody having committed serious offences.

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[Separation of children in Young Offender Institutions](#)

Page summary: Reports on separation of children in Young Offender Institutions by the Separation taskforce and Sir Alan Wood.

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[Assessing the needs of sentenced children in the Youth Justice System](#)

Page summary: 2018 to 2019 AssetPlus experimental statistics.

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[Youth justice statistics: 2018 to 2019](#)

Page summary: Youth justice annual statistics for 2018 to 2019 for England and Wales.

These statistics concentrate on the flow of children (aged 10-17) through the Youth Justice System in England and Wales. The data described comes from various sources including the Home Office (HO), Youth Custody Service (YCS), Ministry of Justice (MOJ), Youth Offending Teams (YOTs) and youth secure estate providers. The report is produced by the Information and Analysis Team in the Youth Justice Board (YJB) under the direction of the Chief Statistician in MOJ.

Details of the number of children arrested are provided along with proven offences, criminal history, characteristics of children, details of the number of children sentenced, those on remand, those in custody, reoffending and behaviour management.

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[Guide to youth justice statistics](#)

Page summary: A guide to youth justice statistics which covers the annual Youth Justice Statistics and monthly Youth Custody Data.

The guide provides more detail on youth justice statistics presented in:

- the annual youth justice statistics bulletin
- the monthly youth custody report data tables and accompanying open data tables.

This is intended to be used as a guide to data sources, concepts and definitions.

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[14-year minimum jail terms for most dangerous terror offenders](#)

Page summary: Terrorists face a minimum of 14 years behind bars for serious offences and tougher monitoring, as a new Bill enters Parliament today (20 May 2020).

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['Sobriety tags' come into force](#) Page summary: Criminals who commit alcohol-fuelled crime may be banned from drinking and made to wear 'sobriety tags' after new legislation comes into force today (19 May 2020).

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[Secure video calls to help prisoners maintain family ties](#)

Page summary: Family video calls will be introduced at prisons and young offender institutions across England and Wales.

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[Funding boost to steer more women away from crime](#)

Page summary: A funding pot of £2.5 million is being made available to community services across England and Wales which support women at risk of being drawn into crime.

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[Offender management statistics quarterly: October to December 2019](#)

Page summary: Detailed quarterly statistics on offenders in custody (including offence groups, sentence lengths and nationalities), and quarterly and annual statistics on prison receptions, prison releases, adjudications, licence recalls and offenders under probation supervision.

**Included: Graphs on Developments from 2000 to 2020**

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[Payment by Results statistics: October 2015 to June 2019](#)

Page summary: Proven reoffending statistics for adult offenders being managed by Community Rehabilitation Companies, under Payment by Results arrangements, and by the National Probation Service.

This publication provides final proven reoffending statistics for Community Rehabilitation Companies under Payment by Results and for the National Probation Service. Final figures are provided for the quarterly cohorts from October 2015 up to June 2018, and the 2015/16, 2016/17 and 2017/18 annual cohorts.

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[Home detention curfew](#)

Page summary: Rules and guidance for prison and probation staff on the Home Detention Curfew (HDC) scheme.

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[Recall, review and re-release of recalled prisoners](#)

Page summary: Mandatory requirements and guidance for prison and probation staff involved in the recall, review and re-release of recalled prisoners.

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[Generic Parole Process Policy Framework](#)

Page summary: Mandatory requirements and guidance for all prison and probation staff involved in the generic parole process.

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[The care and management of individuals who are transgender](#)

Page summary: This Policy Framework ensures that transgender individuals are treated with respect and sensitivity while they are in custody, and that the safety of anyone in our care, transgender or not, is prioritised.

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[Knife and offensive weapon sentencing statistics: October to December 2019](#)

Page summary: Trends in cautioning and sentencing of knife and offensive weapon offences.

This bulletin presents key statistics describing the trends in the number of knife or offensive weapon offences receiving cautions and convictions in England and Wales. This bulletin does not cover all knife or offensive weapon crimes (offences involving a knife or offensive weapon) as published by the Office for National Statistics.

The information presented combines all three types of knife or offensive weapon offences; possession of an article with a blade or point in a public place or on school premises; possession of an offensive weapon without lawful authority or reasonable excuse in a public place or on school premises and offences of aggravated possession of a knife or offensive weapon. Three extra documents accompany this bulletin:

1. An interactive table tool showing the criminal history of knife or offensive weapon offenders, giving breakdowns by prosecuting police force, gender and ethnic appearance as well as previous offences, disposal, age group and year.
2. An [interactive Sankey diagram](#) (a type of flow diagram, in which the width of the arrows is shown proportionally to the number each represents) presenting information on outcomes and criminal history of offenders sentenced or cautioned for a knife or offensive weapon offence.
3. A complete set of tables.